

May 20, 1975

SENATOR KREMER: Well yeah, really. What we're talking about here, there are two ways by which a hearing could be initiated. One could be initiated by the local board with proper information. The second provision is made that the director, on his own, could initiate a hearing.

SENATOR MARSH: And the director is a specialist in the area of water and water . . .

SENATOR KREMER: Here we're talking about the Director of Water Resources, Marion Ball, the office formerly held by Dan Jones.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Question of Senator Kremer if I may. Senator Kremer, this Director of Water Resources, if this sort of thing prevails is there much occasion to maintain that Department? Have we got another dead horse? It would appear to me that most of what used to be his duties have accrued to the NRD's. Is this an office we might abolish entirely, or are there other substantive duties that would justify keeping it on?

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Murphy, my answer would have to be no. His responsibility today is to grant permits to pump out a stream. He has full authority to manage our surplus waters and the waters that are in our rivers. He has a lot of responsibility. This would just be a new one. I could not see any reason at all why this office should be abolished if this amendment is passed.

SENATOR MURPHY: But we will have the NRD's in charge of ground water and another department in charge of surface water?

SENATOR KREMER: The only responsibility the Director now has with the respect to ground water is to accept the registration of the wells that are installed today.

SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rasmussen, would you close debate please.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I think it's been discussed thoroughly. I would ask to return 577 to Select File for specific amendment.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of Senator Rasmussen's amendment . . . or I'm sorry, to return the bill to Select File for specific amendment. Record your vote. Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, 21 not voting on motion to return.